GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5899
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2007
GAS HYDRATES
Jagannath Dr. M.

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether new gas reserves namely `Gas Hydrates` have been discovered in Bay of Bengal offshore;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the rough estimate of the gas hydrates reserves found;

(c) whether India possess the requisite technology for exploitation of the gas hydrates;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken for exploitation of the gas hydrates?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS(SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) & (b):- Yes. Sir. Gas Hydrates have been discovered during drilling and coring of two sites In KG basin in Eastern Offshore area in the Bay of Bengal. No gas hydrates reserves have been estimated so far. However, specialized studies are being planned to carry out volumetric estimation of gas hydrate discovered.

(c) to (e):- There is no production technology/expertise available in the world to produce gas from gas hydrates. Under National Gas Hydrates Programme (NGHP), the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons has entered into Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Japan, Korea and US to collaborate on knowledge sharing for exploration and exploitation of gas hydrate.